

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

January 24, 2003 LB 76

CLERK: Mr. President, General File debate, LB 76. The bill was originally introduced by Senator Hartnett. (Read title.) Introduced on January 9 of this year, referred to the Urban Affairs Committee, advanced to General File. I have no amendments pending at this time, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. The Chair recognizes Senator Hartnett for opening.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body, I'm here to introduce LB 76. It deals with second-class cities and villages in the state. What it would do, it would allow cities and second-class cities to increase the number of members on medical facility boards to whatever size they determine. Right now it's...they have to have at least three and up to five, but this would allow them to do more than that. The...it can be...is appropriate only...the restriction being that it has to be an odd number, and there would be less than three members. Current law states...provides that cities of second class and villages may own and operate medical facilities and may, by ordinance, create a board to have charge of facilities and establish the rules, the management, and operation of facilities. LB 76 would allow the numbers...the number of members on the board to be increased to allow a greater representation of citizen and interested parties to serve on the board. "Medical facilities" means medical...municipal hospital, medical clinic, a nursing home, and some form of multiunit housing. Those...applies only, as I said before, to second-class cities, under 5,000, and villages. There's about 115 second-class cities, and 384 villages. Simply would allow some discretion, some flexibility as far as medical facilities in our small communities. So I'd answer any questions, and would be open to questions.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. The Chair recognizes Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body. I've served for the last four years on the Urban Affairs Committee, and I can assure you that every year we had